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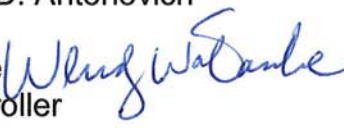
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September 11, 2008

TO: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe 
Acting Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – CHILDS' HOMES
FOR CHILDREN, INCORPORATED - CHILDS' HOME FOR CHILDREN
GROUP HOME**

We have completed a review of Childs' Home for Children Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Childs' Homes for Children, Incorporated. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Childs' Home for Children Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for boys ages 13-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Childs' Home for Children Group Home was providing services for six DCFS children.

Childs' Home for Children Group Home is located in the Fifth District.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews

with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement except for a few deficient areas.

Childs' Home for Children Group Home needs to repair the walls in the backyard and replace the missing stove knobs. The Group Home also needs to maintain current Needs and Services Plans that include input from all members of the treatment team and the child. In addition, the Agency needs to maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medication.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

WLW:MMO:DC:CC:dl

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Senior Deputy Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Jardin Johnson, Board Chair, Childs' Homes for Children, Incorporated
Rufus Childs, Executive Director, Childs' Homes for Children, Incorporated
Audit Committee

**Childs' Homes for Children, Incorporated
Childs' Home for Children Group Home
North Hollywood, California 91605
License Number: 197604969
Rate Classification Level: 12**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Childs' Home for Children Group Home is located in a residential community. Generally, the exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped. However, the walls in the backyard are missing several blocks.

Overall, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the control knobs on the kitchen stove are missing.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

1. Childs' Homes for Children management:

- a. Repair the walls in the back yard.**
- b. Replace the missing knobs on the stove.**

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

One of the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) reviewed was not current. In addition, there is no documentation that the NSPs are developed or implemented with input from all the members of the treatment team and child.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendations

2. Childs' Homes for Children management:

- a. Maintain current NSPs for all children.
- b. Include input from all members of the treatment team and the child in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

Documentation confirms that children are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist. Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication. Medication distribution logs are properly maintained. However, one child does not have a current court authorization for one of the psychotropic medications that he is taking.

Recommendation

3. Childs' Homes for Children management maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medications.

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment – Interviews with children

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff

supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks. Children also receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

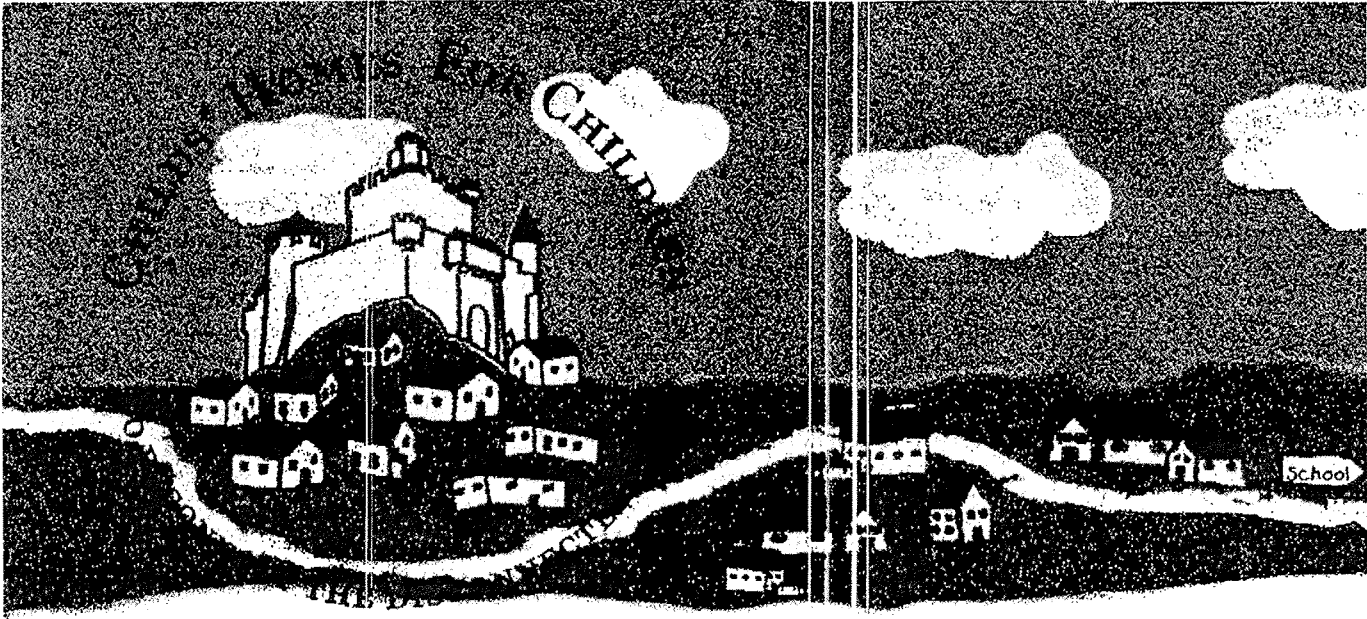
The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.



Childs' Homes for Children, Incorporated
Childs; Home for Children Group Home
North Hollywood, California 91605
License Number: 197604969
Rate Classification Level: 12

Revised on 7/15/2008 from the original date: 3/27/08

I. Facility and Environment

Recommendations

1. Childs' Homes for Children management:
 - a. Repair the walls in the back yard.
 - b. Replace the missing knobs on the stove

Corrective Action Plan Part 1a.

- a. CHFC Facility Manager called Brick Investment, a construction company that handles the exterior ground maintenance. The anticipated date for replacing the bricks will be April 21, 2008. To ensure this situation will not happen again, there will be a check List (Maintenance Report) created for all staff to follow, which

Will include monitoring missing or broken appliances around the facility. These findings will be reported to the CHFC Facility Manager so the problem will be corrected

Corrective Action Plan Part 1b.

- b. CHFC Facility Manager called Angel Appliances in Van Nuys, CA. and ordered four knobs for the stove. They will be delivered on April 1, 2008. To ensure this situation will not happen again, there will be a checklist (Maintenance Report) created for all staff to follow, which will include monitoring missing or broken appliances around the facility. These findings will be reported to the CHFC Facility Manager so the problem will be corrected.

II. Program Services

Recommendations

2. Childs' Homes for Children management:

- a. Maintain current and comprehensive NSPs for all children.
- b. Include input from all members of the treatment team and the child in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

Corrective Action Plan Part 2a

- a. Our Social Worker, Ms. Nancy Piper, MSW is maintaining current and comprehensive NSPs for all the minors in CHFC Group Homes by completing the on line NSP forms.

Corrective Action Plan Part 2b

- b. The Social Worker, Therapist, Line Staff, Probation Officer and the minor will be included in the development and implementation of the NSPs. The Social Worker will be responsible to spear head this process.

III. Psychotropic Medication

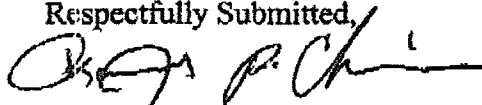
Recommendation

3. Childs' Homes for Children management maintain current court authorizations for all children taking psychotropic medications.

Corrective Action Plan

CHFC Psychiatrist will be responsible for requesting the Court Authorization for the implementation of Psychotropic Medication for all minors currently in our placement, this will be implemented this way: Once a minor is in our placement if it states on his medical release form he needs to take a Psychotropic Medication, the Facility Manager will then call the Psychiatrist to get the process of contacting the courts in motion. The Facility Manager will then do a follow up with the Psychiatrist to receive the Authorization from the court.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mr. Rufus P. Childs
Founder/Director of Childs Homes For Children